

SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATE OF APPROPRIATION FOR THE
PUERTO RICO RECONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

A SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATE OF APPROPRIATION FOR THE
PUERTO RICO RECONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION, DEPART-
MENT OF THE INTERIOR, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1939, IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$3,000,000

FEBRUARY 3, 1939.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered
to be printed

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, February 2, 1939.

THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith for the consideration of Congress a supplemental estimate of appropriation for the Puerto Rico Reconstruction Administration, Department of the Interior, for the fiscal year 1939, in the amount of \$3,000,000.

The details of this estimate, the necessity therefor, and the reason for its transmission at this time are set forth in the letter of the Acting Director of the Bureau of the Budget, which is transmitted herewith, with whose comments and observations thereon I concur.

Respectfully,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,
Washington, February 1, 1939.

THE PRESIDENT,
The White House.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration a supplemental estimate of appropriation for the Puerto Rico Recon-

struction Administration, Department of the Interior, for the fiscal year 1939 in the amount of \$3,000,000.

Information presented to me indicates a need for additional assistance for unemployed persons in Puerto Rico. Uncertain markets for sugar, coffee, and tobacco, the principal products of the islands, have increased the relief load to such an extent that further funds are necessary to finance sound and profitable work-relief projects. It is estimated that on December 31, 1938, there were 372,825 persons gainfully employed in Puerto Rico. According to a census taken in 1935 there were 522,825 persons employed. At the end of November 1938, there were 222,606 certified relief cases on the island, involving 1,121,035 persons.

For the current year \$12,554,000 has been approved for expenditure. Obligations through December 1938, aggregated \$6,392,089. Approximately 30,000 workers on relief have received assistance during the first 6 months of the current fiscal year, and it is estimated that a maximum of 40,500 workers will receive assistance during the remaining 6 months through the expenditure of available funds. It is estimated that the \$3,000,000 involved in this estimate will provide employment for approximately 30,000 additional persons.

The foregoing estimate is required to meet a situation which has arisen since the submission of the Budget for the fiscal year 1939, and I recommend its approval.

Very respectfully,

D. W. BELL,
Acting Director of the Bureau of the Budget.

